Ry: U-10,907/25-20
1 March 1971

Kenneth L. Fry
Colonel, USAF
Acting Deputy Director for Support
Defense Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20301

5707/03

Dear Col. Fry:

Your inquiry dated 28 January 1971 and correspondence from Mr. Melden E. Smith, Jr. are returned since the overall responsibility for the proper security of all files of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey were transferred from the Central Intelligence Agency to the Defense Intelligence Agency effective 15 August 1966. A copy of that agreement is attached for your convenience.

This office has coordinated with interested individuals in this Agency and finds we have no continuing interest in the subject records. The request posed by 4r. Smith appears to be within the purview of your Agency and is returned for your consideration and disposition.

STATINTL

CIA Records Administration Officer

Attachments:

Transfer Agreement 1 Aug 66

Mr. Smith letter 3 Nov 70

Col. Fry letter 22 Dec 70 Col. Fry letter 28 Jan. 71

Col. Fry letter to CIA 28 Jan 71

DDS/SSS/RAB/ dd (1 Mar. 71)

Mr. Smith letter 2 Jan 71

STATINTL

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT

STATINTL

12 February 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: CIA Records Administration Officer

SUBJECT : U. S. Strategic Bombing Survey Records

REFERENCE: Your Memorandum dated 4 February 1971,

Same Subject

This office has no continuing interest in subject records that are housed at the National Archives. It appears to be strictly a DIA matter.

STATINTL



4 February 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Strategic Services Unit

: Reference Inquiry from DIA for Melden E. Smith Jr. SUBJECT

1. In the attached correspondence the Director for Support in Defense Intelligence Agency has informed Mr. Melden E. Smith Jr. that the files he wishes to have a microfilm copy of are classified by the British Air Ministry and two U. S. Government Agencies. Mr. Smith has requested that the declassification request be pursued further.

2. An agreement dated 1 August 1966 transferred custody of the United States Strategic Bombing Records to DIA. You may have continued interest in this material or may have terminated OSS interest at that transfer. Please let me have your position on

a response for this requestor.

STATINTL

CIA Records Administration Officer

Attachment: As Stated

4 February 1771

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Strategic Services Unit

1D-4124, Hgs.

SUBJECT

: Reference Inquiry from DIA for Mehdenne. Smith Jr.

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STATINTL

CIA Records Administration Officer

Attachment:

As stated

DDS/SSS/RAB/

d (4 Feb. 71)

STATINTL

1- RAB = SSU Con. Fate.

9 2 FEB 1971



### Approved For Release 2001/08/30: CIA-RDP74-00390R000200040015-6 DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

U-10,907/DS-2D

2 8 JAN 1971

SUBJECT: Inquiry from Mr. Melden E. Smith, Jr.

TO:

Records Administration Officer

STATINTL

Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

- 1. We are requesting your comments on the enclosed correspondence from Mr. Melden E. Smith, Jr.
- 2. The files requested by Mr. Smith contain documents which were originated and security classified by the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), London. According to Mr. John Taylor of the National Archives and Record Service (NARS), your agency has the authority in declassifying these documents.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

2 Enclosures

1. Cy of Ltr, 3 Nov 70, Melden E. Smith, Jr., w/DIA reply

2. Cy of Ltr, 2 Jan 71, Melden E. Smith, Jr., w/DIA interim reply

\* LAIZTH L. FRY Colonel, USAF

Acting Deputy Director for Support

137 Bay State Road Boston, Massachusetts 02215

January 2, 1971

Colonel Kenneth L. Fry, USAF Acting Deputy Director for Support Defense Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Colonel Fry:

I was happy to receive your reply to my inquiry of 3 November just before Christmas, because I had become convinced that this inquiry had somehow become lost in the maze down there.

Should we dismiss my request to see certain USSBS documents simply because they originated with the Air Ministry? Or could you people get in touch with the British and pass on my request for a selective declassification action? After all these records pertain to an event over twenty-five years ago, and if you were to contact the proper British clearing authority they just might reply favorably.

Would you please pursue this matter further and reply reasonably soon?

The documents in question, again, are:

Under Section 4 (European Target Intelligence) and further broken down to 3a beginning on page 223. (Damage Assessment photo intelligence reports of European targets filed alphebetically, etc.) #746 (on page 229) Dresden, Germany (three envelopes).

In the meantime I shall write to Mr. L. A. Jackets, Air Historical Branch, London, and inform him of my desires in this matter.

Sincerely,

Melden E. Smith, Jr

Approved For Release 2001/08/30 : CIA-RDP74-00390R000200049015-6

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# Approved For Release 2001/08/30 : CIA-RDP74-00390R000290040015-6 DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

U-389/DS

2 8 JAN 1971

Mr. Melden E. Smith, Jr. 137 Bay State Road Boston, Massachusetts 02215

Dear Mr. Smith:

Reference is made to your follow-up letter of 2 January 1971, on the subject of U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey Records.

We have again reviewed the records in question at the National Archives. A page-by-page examination revealed that as previously stated, a large number of these records are proprietary to Her Majesty's Government. Additionally, however, we found that intermingled with those records in the bound documents concerned are documents which are proprietary to another foreign government and two U.S. Federal Agencies.

We regret our inability to furnish you with a final position on your request at this time. As you can appreciate, the Defense Intelligence Agency has no cognizance over the USSBS Records and no authority to either act on or recommend their release. Although we have been informed that previous requests for access to these records have not been favorably considered, we are referring your request through appropriate channels to obtain decisions thereon from the Agencies concerned. We will keep you informed of any progress in this matter.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

KENNETH L. FRY
Colonel, USAF
Acting Deputy Director for Support

137 Bay State Road Boston, Massachusetts 02215 November 3. 1970

Colonel Bert Ezell Assistant Chief of Staff for Administration Defense Intelligence Agency Washington. D. C.

Dear Colonel Ezell:

I am currently working on a doctoral manuscript in history on a reconsideration of the bombing of Dresden, Germany during World War II.

I would like to have the following portion of the USSBS Study declassified so that Mr. John Taylor of the Modern Military Records Division could have it microfilmed and fowarded to me. The selection is:

> Under Section 4 (European Target Intelligence) and further broken down to 3a beginning on page 223, (Damage Assessment photo intelligence reports of European targets filed alphebetically, etc.) #746 (on page 229) Dresden, Germany (3 envelopes).

Mr. Taylor adivised me to contact you with this request. I have a research clearance from the Office of Air Force History for my undertaking and one also from the State Department.

Sincerely yours,

Welden & Smith &.

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Melden E. Smith, Jr.

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Approved For Release 2001/08/30 - 61/4-RDP\$4-60396R000200040015

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